

has a lot of power, the votes are lined up, so 40 people vote that we won't read it, because that will do away with any of this contentiousness that might be developing, and a summary is presented. And the ones who are opposed to the bill will be able to argue, not only did you want to avoid bringing up the bad aspects of the bill, but you even had a slanted summary presented so when the public looks at what this bill is about, because they're not going to read the bill, they're going to see this slanted presentation that you had some staff members write. I want to talk briefly about the realities of a legislative setting. I've often compared an Army barracks with the Legislature and a barber shop or beauty salon in terms of the way rumors can get started and how they spread like wildfire, how gossip just seems to thrive. Nothing would be confidential and the name of the staff member, or names of the members who did this, whatever this summary is, would be defined, and there would be attempts to make it hard on those staff members because they had displeased a senator, or some senators, or some interest who could get the ear of a senator. There would be a staff member in a vulnerable position, not on the playing field where we operate, being exposed to all kind of possible repercussions and retaliation. I don't think it would be a wise policy to be placed into the constitution. So, what I would do by this amendment is strike all reference to the summary. The theory behind this amendment that Senator Kristensen is offering is that every senator is going to be prepared, when time comes to vote, to vote for that bill. We don't need to have it read because all that needs to be known by every senator is known. So, when Final Reading comes everybody should be prepared to vote. And the best place to get information about a bill is from the bill itself. I have acknowledged that I have been unable, ever since being in this Legislature, to read through all the bills by the time they arrive at Final Reading. Some of them which I have read will contain material that slipped by me until I see it on Final Reading. And I'm going to make another admission, people have brought information to me about that which is contained in a bill on Final Reading and I had missed it. So, again, with the reading of the bill being possible I have the opportunity to try to see if what I've been told is really so. And sometimes information will come from the lobby that is valid. If we do away with Final Reading all of those things are out the window, so I'm opposed to taking it away. But all we're talking about right now is the amendment that's...is the amendment that Senator Kristensen is offering to the green copy and the amendment I want to make to that. And